

TOWN OF WALLACE
MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
June 8, 2023
6:00 pm

The Wallace Town Council held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting in the Council Chambers at the Town Hall.

The following Governing Body members were present:

Jason Wells, Mayor
 Council Member/Mayor Pro-tem Francisco Rivas-Diaz
 Council Member Jason Davis
 Council Member Frank Brinkley
 Council Member Jeff Carter
 Council Member Tasha Herring-Redd

The following members of the Governing Body were absent:
 none

Also Present were:

Rob Taylor, Town Manager	Anna H. Herring, Town Attorney (via Zoom)
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk	Lisa Cottle, ORC WWTP
Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief	Joseph Merritt
Rod Fritz, Planning Director	Jeraldine Rainey
Donnie Stiles, Code Enforcement Officer	Jonathan Ramsey, Police Detective
Joseph Trollinger, Finance Director	Jennifer Raynor, Librarian (via Zoom)
Dean Butts, Carolina Strawberry Festival	Marcus Wilson
Kim Butts, Carolina Strawberry Festival	

Mayor Jason Wells called the regular meeting to order with a quorum of the governing body members present and Council Member Jason Davis gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Presentations

Mayor Wells asked Dean Butts, Carolina Strawberry Festival Pageant Chair to introduce the 2023 Miss Strawberry winners. Mr. Butts introduced Baby Miss Strawberry Janey Kate Brock, Mini Miss Strawberry Raelyn Henderson and Little Miss Strawberry Ansley McLamb. The Mayor presented each one with a Certificate of Achievement.

Donnie Stiles, Code Enforcement Office, reported on his recent activities. Mr. Stiles said that 60 junk vehicles have been removed, he is working with the mobile home park owners on compliance plans, all food trucks have permits, and business registrations and the work of abatement of dilapidated buildings is on-going. He plans to take a course at the School of Government in order

to become a Certified Zoning Official. Mr. Stiles briefly discussed a couple of specific items with the Council.

Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the Agenda. Town Manger Rob Taylor said that he wasn't quite finished with the Capital Improvement Plan and asked that it be removed. Three items needed to be added to the agenda; approval of a bid for grass mowing, awarding a contract for trash collection and a budget amendment for the Airport. Council Member Jeff Carter made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended which was seconded by Council Member Frank Brinkley and approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comment Period

Marcus Wilson who lives at 505 E. Murphy Street commented about some personal matters and said he was threatened in his home by someone who bought a car from his wife with counterfeit money. Manager Taylor invited Mr. Wilson to come by his office to talk about his issues.

Jeraldine Rainey, 321 W. Hall Street said there were no stop signs on her street and lots of people speeding. Ms. Rainey added there was a large pot hole at the intersection of Clement St. and Raleigh St.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the minutes from the May 11, 2023 meeting. There being no additions or corrections Council Member Tasha Herring-Redd made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Davis and unanimously approved.

Finance Director Joseph Trollinger presented the tax report for the period ending 04/30/2023 with the collection rate at 95.35% which is a slight improvement over this time last year.

Finance Director Trolling asked the Council to approve the following tax release :

Account #	Name	Amount	Reason
000000275	Emergency Energy Services	\$3.10	Double listed 2022

Council Member Davis made a motion to approve the tax release that was seconded by Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

Public Hearing

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget

Town Manager Taylor explained a couple of changes made to the proposed FY 2023-24 budget as it was presented at the May meeting. One of the changes is related to the purchase and training of a K9 due to the funds not being expended until FY 23-24 and paving projects in this FY instead of next FY.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to open a public hearing for the FY 2023-2024 budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

There were no public comments.

Council Member Carter made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Action on Public Hearing Item - FY 2023-2024 Budget

Council Member Davis made a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (24-23.01) that was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Award Contract for Well Houses and Pumps

Manager Taylor stated that the bid for the project was awarded to DPH General Contractors in the amount of \$1,400,000 which is more than budgeted. The request for additional loan funds was approved by the LGC (Local Government Commission) and asked the Council to adopt a Resolution of Tentative Award contingent upon approval of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to adopt the Resolution 22-23-16. The motion was seconded by Council Member Davis and unanimously approved.

Budget Amendment for Wells Project

Manager Taylor said the Budget Amendment #23.7 is to increase loan proceeds and construction expense for the new wells.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the proposed Budget Amendment. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

Award Contract for Currie/Duplin Street Stormwater Project

Manager Taylor stated that bids were opened for this project on April 20. The bids came in higher than the budgeted amount but recommended awarding the contract to the lowest bidder, Carolina Marine Works and amend the project budget to cover additional costs.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-23-17 that was seconded by Council Member Carter and approved by unanimous vote.

Budget Amendment for Stormwater Project

Manager Taylor asked the Council to approve Budget Amendment #23.8 to cover the additional costs associated with the stormwater project not covered by the grant from the Stormwater Fund Balance.

Council Member Herring-Redd made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #23.8. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and unanimously approved.

Award Bids for Surplus Property (Houses at Airport)

Manager Taylor said that the surplus houses at the Airport were advertised twice and only one was sold. He asked the Council to approve the sale of that house to Jimmy Tate in the amount of \$172.00.

Council Member Carter made a motion to sell the house located at 1600 Wallace Airport Road to Jimmy Tate for \$172.00. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

New Business

Establish Public Hearing for Land Use Plan

Planning Director Rod Fritz asked the Council to establish a public hearing next month for the Land Use Plan.

Council Member Davis made a motion to establish a public hearing for the Land Use Plan on Thursday, July 13, 2023 after 6:00 pm which was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and approved unanimously.

Award Contract for Grass Mowing Services

Manager Taylor stated that bids for a two (2) year contract for grass mowing contract were opened on June 6. Three (3) bids were received to mow Town Hall, Women's Club, Depot, Library and Farrior Park in the months of April through October with the lowest bid submitted by Casteen Property Management in the amount of \$13,700.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to award the contract to the low bidder. The motion was seconded by Council Member Herring-Redd and approved by unanimous vote.

Award Contract for Solid Waste Collection

Manager Taylor said that two (2) bids were received for solid waste collection. One of the bidders did not include yard waste or big trash. Taylor recommended the bid from Tons of Trash be approved for a period of five (5) years.

Council Member Rivas-Diaz made a motion to approve the contract with Tons of Trash that was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and unanimously approved.

Budget Amendment for Land Acquisition at the Airport

Manager Taylor reported and increase in the project costs, related grant proceeds and attorney fees for condemnation.

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #23.9. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and approved unanimously.

Financial Reports

Finance Director Trollinger presented the financial reports stating that the Budget Report is through March 31 and he is working to get caught up. He commented that 139 of 149 Work Orders

closed is a good KPI (key performance indicator), investments are strong and sales tax has been steady the last few months.

Council Reports

Council Members Herring-Redd mentioned some upcoming events and celebrations. Ms. Herring also spoke about improvements to Teachy Road Park so it would look like an actual park.

Council Member Carter asked when the fountain at Town Hall would be finished (June 16 is the tentative date). He posed a question about companies mowing lawns in Town without a Business Registration.

Council Member Brinkley asked about paving Harrell St. (June 19).

Council Member Rivas-Diaz mentioned some pot holes on Clement & Raleigh St. and Graham & Boney St. He also asked about the status of more sidewalks. Planning Director Fritz said a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan is being worked on and input is welcome.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Wells said the north side of the Depot needs painting and the handicap ramp smoothed out. He recommended the Stormwater Ordinance be revisited, particularly the properties with large parking lots.

Town Manager's Report

Manager Taylor referenced his written report that was in the packet.

Closed session

Council Member Carter made a motion to go into closed session (G.S.143-318.11(a)(3)(5)) to consult with the Town Attorney and discuss property acquisition that was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

Manager Taylor stated that the settlement agreement had been accepted and Ms. Angela Bannerman agreed to the amount.

He asked for approval of acquiring Medical Village Drive for for the amount stated which the Council did.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to end the closed session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carter and approved by unanimous vote.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to approve the settlement agreement at the proposed amount. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas Diaz and approved unanimously.

Council Member Carter made a motion purchase Medical Village Drive for \$1 which was seconded by Council Member Herring-Redd and unanimously approved.

With there being no other business to discuss at this time, Council Member Herring-Redd made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Wells, Mayor

Jacqueline Nicholson, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
TOWN OF WALLACE
ORDINANCE 23-23-01**

**Recommended
Budget Ordinance
For the Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of Wallace, North Carolina, that the following anticipated fund revenues and department expenditures, with certain restrictions and authorizations, are hereby appropriated and authorized for the operation of the Town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

SUMMARY

General Fund	\$45,568,904
Water & Sewer Fund	\$4,182,000
Stormwater Fund	\$235,100
Airport Commission Fund	\$230,152
	\$10,216,156

SECTION 1: GENERAL FUND

REVENUES

ADValorem Taxes	\$1,455,719
Vehicle Taxes	180,000
Prior Years	52,000
Fire Property Tax Pender	16,000
Fire Property Tax Duplin	85,000
Penalties & Interest	35,000
1% Sales Tax - Art. 39	370,000
0.5% Sales Tax - Art. 40	325,000
0.5% Sales Tax - Art. 42	188,000
Sales Tax - Art. 44	165,000
Hold Harmless Tax	330,000
1/4 % Fire Sales Tax	85,000
Utility Franchise Tax	241,740
Beer and Wine Tax	16,000
ABC Revenues	60,000
Solid Waste Disposal Tax	3,000
Powell Bill	113,000
Local/State Grants	63,875
Business Registration Fees	9,000
Planning Fees/Permits	8,000
Refuse Collection Fees	400,000
Cultural & Recreation Revenues	82,000
Tower & Other Rental Fees	108,000
Investment Earnings	115,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	123,650
Transfer from Other Funds	420,150
	\$5,568,904

EXPENDITURES

Governing Body	\$75,039
Administration	239,522
Finance	289,898
Public Buildings	197,179
Police	1,966,064
Fire	354,465
Planning	220,047
Streets	703,002
Powell Bill	173,000
Sanitation	243,400
Parks & Recreation	547,095
Library	162,072
Depot	49,501
Non Departmental	328,620
	\$5,568,904

SECTION 2: WATER AND SEWER**REVENUES**

Water Charges	\$1,575,000
Sewer Charges	2,200,000
Reconnect Fees & Penalties	40,000
Connection & Install Fees	35,000
Capacity Fees	-
Investment Earnings	102,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	30,000
Sale of Fixed Assets	50,000
Issuance of Debt	150,000
	\$4,182,000

EXPENDITURES

Water Operations	\$1,074,204
Collections Operations	\$575,874
Treatment Plant Operations	1,758,323
Non Departmental	773,599
	\$4,182,000

SECTIONS 3: STORMWATER FUND**REVENUES**

Stormwater Fees	\$230,000
Investment Earnings	500
Miscellaneous Revenues	4,600
Issuance of Debt	-
	\$235,100

EXPENDITURES

Stormwater Operations	\$235,100
	\$235,100

SECTION 4: AIRPORT COMMISSION FUND

REVENUES

Sales and Services	\$148,770
Investment Earnings	12,000
Transfers in and Other Revenues	69,382
	\$230,152

EXPENDITURES

Airport Operations	\$230,152
	\$230,152

SECTION 5: RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE

There is hereby established and authorized, for the fiscal year 2023-2024 , a rate and fee schedule contained in Appendix A.

SECTION 6: LEVY OF TAXES

There is hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024, the following Ad Valorem Tax Rate of **\$0.62** per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of taxable property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2023, in order to finance the foregoing applicable appropriations. This rate is based on and estimated assessed value of \$232,986,012.

SECTIONS 7: RESTRICTION ON BUDGET OFFICER

- A. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to reallocate any appropriations within departments.
- B. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to execute interfund and interdepartmental transfers in emergency situations.
- C. The Budget Officer shall be authorized to effect interdepartmental transfers in the same fund, not to exceed 10 percent of the appropriated monies for the department whose allocation is needed.
- D. The Budget Officer may reallocate and reclassify Town positions and expenditures as necessary to address budget and service related issues more effectively.
- E. Notification of all transfers and budget amendments approved by the Budget Officer shall be made to the Town Council at its meeting following the transfer.

SECTION 9: RE-APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS ENCUMBERED IN FISCAL YEAR 2023

Outstanding purchase orders as of June 30, 2023, shall be added to each appropriation authorized above in order to account for the payment against the fiscal year in which is paid.

SECTION 10: PAY, CLASSIFICATION, AND POSITIONS FUNDED

The Town's pay and classification plan and positions listed in Appendix B are hereby authorized. The Town Manager is hereby authorized to fill such positions when such are vacant with the grade stated for each position. Any pay change for Town employees shall begin with the first full payroll in the new fiscal year which will begin June 21, 2023.

SECTION 11: UTILIZATION OF BUDGET ORDINANCE

This ordinance shall be the basis of the financial plan for the Town of Wallace municipal government during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The Budget Officer shall administer the Annual Operating Budget and shall insure that operating officials are provided guidance and sufficient details to implement their appropriate portion of the budget.

Adopted this, 8th day of June 2023

WALLACE, NORTH CAROLINA

Jason Wells, Mayor

ATTEST:

{Town Seal}

Jacqueline Nicholson, Town Clerk

TOWN OF WALLACE

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FY 23-7

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina the following amendments be made to the Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund			
Section I:	Water and Sewer		
Account Number	Account Description	Increase	Decrease
35-8100-800	Construction Costs	\$1,214,962.00	
35-3000-000	Issuance of Debt-State Revolving Loan Fund		\$1,214,962.00
	TOTALS	\$1,214,962.00	\$1,214,962.00

Increase costs of construction and additional funds from revolving loan fund to cover increase.

Section II: Copy to Finance Director

Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Finance Director for their direction in the disbursement of funds:

Adopted this June 8, 2023

Attest:

Jackie Nicholson
Town Clerk

Jason Wells
Mayor

TOWN OF WALLACE

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FY 23-8

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina the following amendments be made to the Stormwater Fund and the Stormwater Capital Project Fund			
Section I:	Water and Sewer		
Account Number	Account Description	Increase	Decrease
39-2211-800	Construction Costs	\$90,000.00	
35-2211-003	Local Match		\$90,000.00
59-5900-930	Transfer to Capital Project Fund	\$90,000.00	
59-5900-972	Fund Balance Appropriatin		\$90,000.00
	TOTALS	\$180,000.00	\$180,000.00

Cover the additional cost associated with stormwater project not covered by grant. Town to make up difference.

Section II: Copy to Finance Director

Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Finance Director for their direction in the disbursement of funds:

Adopted this June 8, 2023

Attest:

Jackie Nicholson
Town Clerk

Jason Wells
Mayor

TOWN OF WALLACE

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FY-23-9

BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Wallace, North Carolina the following amendments be made to the Airport Capital Project Fund			
Section I:	Airport		
Account Number	Account Description	Increase	Decrease
65-7535-101	Administration	\$6,600.00	
65-3035-325	Local Match		\$6,600.00
	TOTALS	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00

Cover increase in project costs and related grant proceeds are needed for the land acquisition project, increase for attorney fees for condemnation.

Section II: Copy to Finance Director

Copies of this budget amendment shall be delivered to the Finance Director for their direction in the disbursement of funds:

Adopted this the 8th day of June, 2023

Attest:

Jackie Nicholson
Town Clerk

Jason Wells
Mayor